

I am writing to you regarding the National Association of Broadcasters and their petition 04-160.

As a paying consumer of XMRadio, I actually PAY XMRadio to be able to listen to accurate and up to date traffic information. Working in Washington DC it is extremely valuable to me to know what the traffic conditions are like. I used to listen to AM radio to get some information, however the best available service repeats traffic information every ten minutes and is so limited in scope that it is less than useful. Once XMRadio started offering this (paid for) service I was able to plan my commute with much more success. If the NAB and local broadcasters would like for me to listen to their stations, all they need to do is broadcast content I would like to listen to.

The NAB should realise that if the public is willing to pay for a service that they offer for free, then the quality of what they are offering is so poor that people would rather part with money that use their 'product'.

The NAB should have no right to keep things as they are merely because they 'got there first'. If companies are not allowed to improve and offer competing services merely because the incumbents are not willing to compete for their market, then the NAB has a nice effective monopoly of the airways and can continue to offer below-par radio features.

The FCCs role in this should be as an enabler to let the public (who ultimately pay for the FCC, XMRadio and for the advertisers who fund the NAB) make their own choice as to what they would like to listen to it. Neither the NAB or XM should have the unassailable right to keep their market share without merit. Otherwise we would only have four channels of television broadcast in black and white and mono sound.. instead competition has brought hundreds of channels of entertainment to the public. Those that are viable and are wanted will survive. For the rest.. well there is always NPR..